



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 28

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

The state experienced minimal rainfall again during the week which further stressed field crops in many areas, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Several corn fields are now reaching maturity and some soybean fields have begun to turn color. Corn silage and seed corn were being harvested around the state. Soybean fields continued to be sprayed for aphids. Tobacco was being cut in some southern counties.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.5 **days suitable for field work**. Eighty-five percent of the **corn** crop is in **dough** compared to 95 percent last year and 88 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-two percent of the corn acreage is in the **dent** stage compared with 75 percent last year and 50 percent for the 5-year average. Three percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared to 19 percent last year and 7 percent for the 5-year average. **Corn condition** is rated 37 percent good to excellent compared with 57 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-seven percent of the **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 100 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-year average. Eighty-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 97 percent last year and 92 percent for the 5-year average. Two percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared to 12 percent last year and 6 percent for the 5-year average. **Soybean condition** is rated 45 percent good to excellent compared with 55 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: Attending field days, applying insecticides, cutting and baling hay, monitoring irrigation systems, mowing roadsides and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 17 percent good to excellent compared with 25 percent last year. The **third cutting of alfalfa hay** is 80 percent complete compared with 86 percent last year and 77 percent for the 5-year average. Producers continued to feed hay as pastures have become inadequate in some areas. Cooler temperatures during the week helped to relieve stress to **Livestock**.

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn in Dough	85	70	95	88
Corn in Dent	42	21	75	50
Corn Mature	3	NA	19	7
Soybeans Blooming	97	95	100	99
Soybeans Setting Pods	88	74	97	92
Soybeans Shedding Lvs.	2	NA	12	6
Alfalfa, Third Cutting	80	61	86	77

### CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	8	17	38	31	6
Soybean	7	13	35	38	7
Pasture	15	30	38	15	2

### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	24	19	28
Short	45	42	45
Adequate	31	39	27
Surplus	0	0	0
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	23	16	21
Short	43	44	43
Adequate	34	40	36
Surplus	0	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.5	6.4	6.9

### CONTACT INFORMATION

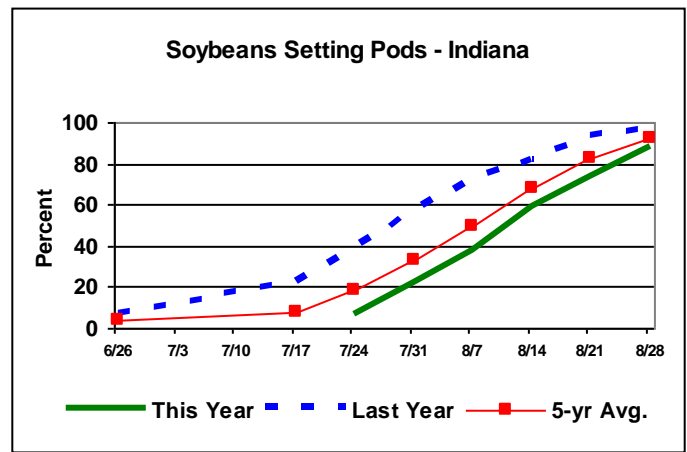
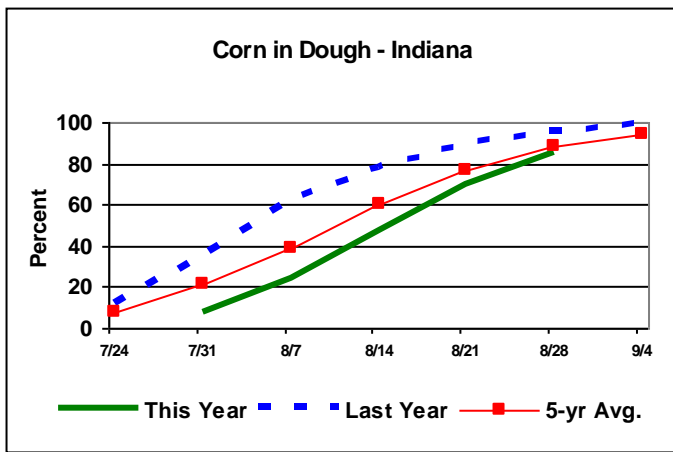
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[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Indiana/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/)

# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Are Your Ears (of corn) Sagging?

Written by R.L. (Bob) Nielsen, Agronomy Dept., Purdue University. Article appears in the August 2011 issue of the Corny News Network, and can be found at: <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/timeless/Droopy.html>

Ears of corn normally remain erect until some time after physiological maturity has occurred (black layer development), after which the ear shanks eventually collapse and the ears decline or "droop" down. In recent weeks, corn field connoisseurs have reported droopy ears in drought-stressed fields that have not yet reached physiological maturity.

Droopy ears are cute on certain breeds of dogs, but droopy ears on corn plants prior to physiological maturity are a signal that grain fill has slowed or halted. Premature ear declination (the fancy term for this problem) results in premature black layer formation, lightweight grain, and ultimately lower grain yield per acre.

**What Causes Droopy Ears?** The most common contributing factor seems to be severe drought stress that extends late into the grain filling period. The "droopy" symptom suggests a loss of turgidity in the ear shank with stress, possibly combined with some cannibalization of the ear shank similar to what can occur with the stored reserves of the main stalk. Eventually, the ear shank collapses and the ear droops down.

In hybrids without the Bt-corn borer trait, collapsed ear shanks can also result from extensive tunneling by European corn borer larvae. Such tunneling weakens the ear shank, allowing it to collapse, and can ultimately also cause the ear to literally drop from the plant.



(continued on page 4)

# Weather Information Table

## Week Ending Sunday, August 28, 2011

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air							April 1, 2011 through				
	Temperature				Precip.	4 in	Avg	August 28, 2011				
								Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	90	51	69	-2	0.41	2		27.54	+8.74	61	2497	+0
Francesville	89	48	68	-1	0.15	1		25.55	+6.80	62	2481	+177
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	51	70	+1	0.20	1		23.08	+3.63	61	2527	+247
Wanatah	90	45	66	-3	0.18	2	77	27.35	+8.40	77	2233	+51
Winamac	91	54	70	+2	0.61	3		28.10	+9.35	77	2444	+140
<b>North Central (2)</b>												
Plymouth	91	50	69	-3	0.09	1		25.20	+6.24	67	2473	+59
South_Bend	92	53	71	+2	0.06	1		23.94	+5.66	69	2610	+341
Young_America	89	52	69	-2	0.39	2		24.69	+6.75	53	2567	+200
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Fort_Wayne	92	53	72	+2	0.93	2		21.31	+4.38	65	2819	+449
Kendallville	90	54	69	+0	1.09	3		26.32	+8.88	88	2495	+267
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	90	53	69	-4	0.98	3		26.06	+4.88	63	2576	-88
Perrysville	94	53	70	-1	0.85	3	82	20.96	+0.78	55	2825	+338
Spencer_Ag	93	56	74	+4	0.39	3		24.62	+2.90	57	2871	+358
Terre_Haute_AFB	94	53	73	+2	0.71	1		24.32	+4.25	61	3009	+358
W_Lafayette_6NW	90	49	70	+0	0.67	3	76	28.43	+9.67	62	2698	+341
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	92	59	73	+2	0.34	3		22.47	+3.48	63	3059	+429
Greenfield	94	57	73	+2	0.50	3		27.00	+6.13	72	2848	+328
Indianapolis_AP	96	60	76	+5	0.21	2		20.16	+1.17	59	3174	+544
Indianapolis_SE	92	55	72	+0	1.07	3		27.17	+7.54	65	2773	+158
Tipton_Ag	90	52	69	+0	0.44	4	80	28.34	+9.28	64	2645	+354
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	91	53	70	+1	0.01	1	83	22.53	+4.05	68	2669	+433
New_Castle	92	52	70	+0	0.20	2		29.55	+9.41	60	2587	+297
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	95	59	79	+5	0.00	0		33.47	+14.36	51	3487	+434
Freelandville	95	59	76	+4	0.04	1		24.23	+4.28	50	3151	+413
Shoals_8S	96	54	73	+2	0.00	0		30.76	+9.10	49	2949	+300
Stendal	93	58	76	+3	0.00	0		39.15	+17.68	51	3193	+316
Vincennes_5NE	94	59	75	+3	0.00	0	82	32.72	+12.77	53	3215	+477
<b>South Central (8)</b>												
Leavenworth	95	59	76	+5	0.10	1		32.40	+10.18	67	3172	+535
Oolitic	91	56	73	+2	0.31	1	80	34.14	+13.24	62	2827	+293
Tell_City	94	60	77	+3	0.00	0		32.93	+11.01	53	3312	+389
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	95	58	74	+5	0.63	3		27.18	+6.89	63	2953	+548
Greensburg	93	57	73	+3	0.17	1		30.08	+9.71	58	3028	+571
Seymour	92	57	73	+3	0.07	1		29.45	+9.41	52	2843	+309

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DFN = Departure From Normal.

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

## Are Your Ears (of corn) Sagging? (continued)

**Impact on Yield?** Remember that the ear shank is the final "pipeline" for the flow of photosynthates into the developing ear. An ear shank that collapses prior to physiological maturity will greatly restrict, if not totally prevent, the completion of grain fill for that ear and will likely cause premature black layer development in the grain. If the droopy ears you've looked have not yet black layered, they soon will.

The timing of the onset of the collapsed ear shanks determines the magnitude of the expected yield loss. If grain fill were totally shut down at the full dent stage of grain development (milk line barely visible at dent of kernels), the yield loss would be as much as 40 percent. If grain fill were totally shut down at the late dent stage of grain development (milk line halfway between dent and tip), yield losses for the affected ears would equal about 12 percent.

Multiplying the percentage of affected ears in a field by the estimated yield loss per ear will give you an estimate of whole field loss. For example, if ten percent of the field contained plants whose ears drooped prematurely at the late dent stage, whole field loss would be estimated at 1.2 percent (10 percent of the ears multiplied by 12 percent yield loss per ear).



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